

air paths extending through all of the plural cells and to a periphery of the mesh-patterned partition; and

forming the partition by baking the patterned layer.

REMARKS

In the Response to Amendment at page 2 of the subject *Ex parte Quayle* Office Action, claims 10-11 and 15 are placed in Group II, asserted as a separate and distinct invention from the Group I claims 1-9 and 12-14 and the Group I claims drawn to the plasma display panel are said to be "constructively elected by original presentation for prosecution on the merits." Accordingly, the Group II claims 10-11 and 15 are withdrawn from consideration as being drawn to a non-elected invention.

In a telephone discussion with SPE O'Shea in the first week of March 2003, Examiner O'Shea stated Examiner O'Shea stated that a method claim, such as original claim 10/1 herein (along with its dependent claim 11/10), which is dependent from an apparatus or device claim, such as claim 1 herein, is not "searched" with respect to the prior art. In other words, the method limitations are given no "weight" relative to patentability determinations and, instead, the Examiner searches only the apparatus limitations of, in this case, apparatus claim 1.

She further asserted that because we rewrote claim 10/1 to independent form, effectively reciting the structure of claim 1 but doing so in a revised form in which the structure is a result of method steps, claim 10 became a true method claim--which now must be the subject of a separate search of the prior art. Moreover, a restriction requirement can now be imposed, as between a device claim and a method claim which recites a method of making that device--as has now occurred.

Furthermore, since our Amendment changed the character of claim 10/1, as rewritten to independent form, under the doctrine of "election by original presentation", claim 10 was no longer entitled to be considered with claim 1 and, instead, was properly withdrawn and now must be canceled. In other words, the "original presentation" was a presentation of device claims and therefore only device claims are now properly pending in this application.

Examiner O'Shea also indicated that claim 10 would be favorably considered if amended back to its dependent form and which is done in the foregoing. Claim 11 was unamended in the intervening response.

Further, claim ⁵10 has been canceled.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claims 10 and 11 are now allowable, and such action is earnestly solicited.

In conclusion, there being no other objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance, which action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: April 7, 2003

By: 

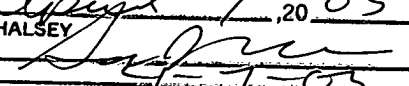
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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8(a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231

on April 7, 2003
STAAS & HALSEY
By: 
Date: April 7, 2003

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please CANCEL claim 15.

Please AMEND the following claims:

1. (AS ONCE AMENDED HEREIN) A plasma display panel having a display surface, comprising:
 - a pair of spaced substrates defining a gap therebetween;
 - a discharge gas filled in the gap between the substrates; and
 - a mesh-patterned partition, disposed between respective inner surfaces of the substrates and extending over all of the display surface, dividing the gap into a cell arrangement of plural gas-filled cells, each cell having a surrounding partition sidewall, portions of the respective surrounding sidewall of the plural gas-filled cells forming mesh-like air paths extending through all of the plural gas-filled cells and to a periphery of the partition.
2. (AS ONCE AMENDED HEREIN) The plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein portions of the partition sidewalls are lowered to form the mesh-like air paths, a difference between respective heights of the lowered portions and the other portions upper surface of the partition sidewalls is more than 5% of a maximum height of the partition.
3. (AS ONCE AMENDED HEREIN) The plasma display panel according to claim 12, wherein portions of the partition sidewalls are lowered to form the mesh-like air paths, a difference between respective heights of the lowered portions and an upper surface of the partition sidewall being more than 10 μm .
4. (AS ONCE AMENDED HEREIN) The plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein a fluorescent material is arranged on a row direction side and a column direction side of the respective partition sidewall of each of the cells.
5. (AS ONCE AMENDED HEREIN) The plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein the cells in the row direction and in the column direction form a matrix display and an

inter-row portion of the partition, that forms a boundary wall between adjacent rows, is of a lower height than other portions of the partition.

6. (AS ONCE AMENDED HEREIN) The plasma display panel according to claim 5, wherein the inter-row portion defines at least one space for each column.

7. (AS ONCE AMENDED HEREIN) The plasma display panel according to claim 6, wherein the inter-row portion has a ladder pattern.

8. (AS ONCE AMENDED HEREIN) The plasma display panel according to claim 5, wherein the partition is arranged on a back substrate, an electrode including a transparent conductive film and a metal film extending over all columns is arranged on the front substrate, and the metal film and the inter-row portion are overlaid .

9. (AS ONCE AMENDED HEREIN) The plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein the partition is formed of a baked material having a heat shrink property, and a width of the reduced height portions of the partition sidewalls is greater than a width of the other portions of the sidewalls of the partition.

10. (TWICE AMENDED) A method for manufacturing a plasma display having a display screen accordingly claim 1, comprising :

forming a layer of a material having a heat shrink property on a substrate;

patterning the layer to define [a] the mesh-patterned partition extending over all of the display screen and defining a cell arrangement of plural cells, each cell having a partition sidewall, portions of the respective surrounding sidewalls of the plural cells forming mesh-like air paths extending through all of the plural cells and to a periphery of the mesh-patterned partition; and

forming the partition by baking the patterned layer.

11. (AS ONCE AMENDED HEREIN) The method according to claim 10, wherein the patterning further comprises placing a cutting mask corresponding to the cell arrangement on the layer, and cutting non-masked portions of the layer by sandblasting.

12. (AS NEW HEREIN) The plasma display panel according to claim 1, wherein spaced, opposed portions of the respective sidewalls of the plural cells, aligned in row and column directions, are of a reduced height, relative to other portions of the respective sidewalls of the plural cells, thereby forming corresponding air paths.

13. (AS NEW HEREIN) The plasma display panel according to claim 12, wherein the air paths extend continuously over a complete length of each of the row and column directions.

14. (AS NEW HEREIN) A plasma display panel having a display surface, comprising:
a pair of substrates having parallel, spaced and opposed respective inner surfaces defining a gap therebetween;
a discharge gas filled in the gap between the substrates; and
a mesh-patterned partition disposed between the respective inner surfaces of the substrates and dividing the gap into a cell arrangement of plural gas-filled cells in plural, transverse rows and columns covering the display surface and in which the partition defines a surrounding sidewall for each cell, spaced and opposed portions of the respective sidewalls of the plural cells, aligned in both the row and column directions, defining corresponding air paths in the row and column directions, that travel through all of the gas-filled cells to a periphery of the partition.